

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An authentication system has a server system provided with a common authentication unit (i.e., first and second authentication units) and a system controller (i.e., an access-permitting unit). The first 5 authentication unit authenticates user-identifying information transmitted from a communication terminal and generates an access key based on the user-identifying information. The access key is transmitted from the server system to the communication terminal. The second authentication unit authenticates the access key transmitted 10 from the communication terminal and generates a session key to access the data. The access key is transmitted from the server system to the communication terminal. The access permitting unit permits the data to be accessed within a predetermined period of time. The access is performed on the session key transmitted from the communication 15 terminal.